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## INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STAFF

7 January 1977

NOTE FOR: D/DCI/IC

SUBJECT: Meeting with DCI on the A/B  
Team Matter

Attached for today's meeting with the DCI is a paper on the IC Staff evaluation of estimates of the Soviet threat.

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[redacted] may urge that the IC Staff evaluation be deferred until completion of the NIO and CIA responses to the Team B report. I recommend that we continue on as planned, since the new DCI should have an independent IC Staff judgment on the soundness of the estimating process when he takes office.

[redacted]

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## INFORMATION

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IC STAFF EVALUATION OF ESTIMATES OF THE  
SOVIET MILITARY THREAT

Purposes of Evaluation

- To address those aspects of the NIE 11-3/8 competitive analysis which relate to evaluation and improvement of Community performance.
- To evaluate the adequacy of Community organization, procedures, resources, data bases, methodology and trained analysts as they pertain to the more general subject of estimates of the Soviet nuclear and conventional military threats.

Timing

Phase 1 of the project will produce a short report for the new DCI, on or about January 20. This report will provide independent IC Staff assurances that:

- The estimative process is basically 'sound and has not been stamped by outside pressures.
- Where problems exist in intelligence estimates, either the Community is moving to correct these problems or the DCI's corrective mechanisms (e.g., the IC Staff, the NIOs) are on top of the problems and will recommend corrective actions.

Phase 2 of the project will examine in greater detail those problems identified in Phase 1, with particular emphasis on determining the need for changes in estimating procedures, presentation and methodologies, more manpower and fiscal resources devoted to "soft data" on the Soviet threat (e.g., doctrine, open sources, analysis of Soviet objectives), and revised policies for recruiting and training Soviet analysts. We intend to complete Phase I in the Spring, so the report can be available for use in the second semi-annual NSC review and the CFI program review, as appropriate.

Relation of IC Staff Project to NIO and CIA Responses to Team B Report

The IC Staff project will provide the DCI an independent judgment about the implications of the Team B report. Also,

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it covers aspects of estimating issues which are not being addressed by the NIOs or CIA, viz., the Soviet general forces threat and systemic Community problems of resources, data, or manpower which may relate to the quality of estimates.

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